

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 12, 2006, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 15-20 and 23-30 are allowed. Claims 1 and 7 are rejected and claims 1-6 and 9-11 are objected to by the Examiner. Claims 1 and 7 have been amended. Claims 1-7, 9-11, 15-20, and 23-30 remain pending in this application.

In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Japanese Publication No. 9-34381 to Minoru (hereinafter "Minoru"). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Publication No. 6-265919 to Yuichi et al. (hereinafter "Yuichi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,020,867 to Shimada et al. (hereinafter "Shimada") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,950,072 to Honda (hereinafter "Honda") and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,879,366 to Takeishi et al. (hereinafter "Takeishi").

The rejection of claims 1 and 7 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Claims 1 and 7 are allowable over the cited references in that each of these claims recites a combination of elements including, for example, "a variable resistor (VR) that optimizes flickering by adjusting a common voltage (Vcom)." None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. Specifically, none of the references disclose a variable resistor that adjusts a common voltage to optimize flickering. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 7 are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37

C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. *A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 11, 2006

By


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